IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph at page 1, lines 5-8, with the following re-written paragraph:

This is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/585,077, filed June 1, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,743,823, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/323,472, filed June 1, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,346,382, the entire contents of which are herein incorporated by reference.

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph at page 49, lines 5-11, with the following re-written paragraph:

A method of raising a level of a nitric [[acid]] oxide precursor in a subject in need thereof is also disclosed. In some embodiments the method comprises administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a nitric oxide precursor, whereby a level of a nitric oxide precursor in the subject is raised. The administering can be intravenous or oral administration. The nitric oxide precursor can be selected from the group consisting of citrulline, arginine and combinations thereof.

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph at page 66, lines 13-16, with the following re-written paragraph (the double underlined text is to be added):

Genotyping. DNA was isolated using a QIAmp™ blood kit (Qiagen). The T1405N polymorphism changes the DNA sequence as follows:

CCT-GCC-ACC-CCA-GTG Normal (SEQ ID NO:21)

CCT-GCC-AAC-CCA-GTG Change (SEQ ID NO:22)